UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/882,985	06/15/2001	Michael J. Morton	13768.810.54	9825

47973   7590   10/29/2007
WORKMAN NYDEGGER/MICROSOFT
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111

EXAMINER
ZHOU, TING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
10/29/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The amendment filed on and 20 June 2007 and 13 August 2007 have been received and

entered. Claims 1-42 as amended are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or
> described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject
> matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole
> would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary
> skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.   Patentability shall not be negatived
> by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson et

al. US Publication 2002/0129054 (hereinafter "Ferguson") and Khan U.S. Publication

2002/0032611.

Referring to claims 1, 19 and 31, Ferguson teaches a method, computer program product

and system comprising an object sending a request to a server and an object receiving a request

from the server (the spreadsheet of the client computer communicates with a server via

requesting and receiving data, i.e. downloading web pages/web content from the server)

(Ferguson: page 3, paragraph 0018, page 5, paragraph 0053 and page 16, paragraphs 0164-

0169); the application determining if the server supports a web view page for a particular

application object, the determining being made by recognition of an attribute, and upon

determining that the server supports a web view page for the particular application object,

receiving a web view page from the server (the spreadsheet of the productivity application

receives a web view page, i.e. network/internet based operation/functionalities/web pages from

the server upon determination that the network/internet functionalities are supported;

specifically, a determination is made as to whether the spreadsheet has appropriate objects and

code to support network-based functionality) (Ferguson: page 4, paragraphs 0044 and 0050-

0051, page 5, paragraphs 0053-0054, page 15, paragraphs 0149-0150 and page 0016, paragraphs

0164-0169); displaying the web view page within the particular application object (a browser

web page is displayed within the productivity application spreadsheet to allow users access to the

network/Internet) (Ferguson: page 2, paragraphs 0013-0015 and Figure 11B); receiving user

input corresponding to an element within the web view (users interact with the spreadsheet

application, i.e. select information, etc.) (Ferguson: page 4, paragraph 0051, page 5, paragraph

0053, page 6, paragraph 0062 and page 16, paragraph 0164-0169); providing a determination

capable of determining when the element is to be processed by a browser module and when the

element is to be processed by the application object (inspecting the spreadsheet to determine if

the spreadsheet has appropriate network-based functionality, which causes the spreadsheet to be

launched with network-based functionality, or if the spreadsheet does not have the functionality,

which causes the spreadsheet to be launched normally w/o network based functionalities) (page

15, paragraphs 0149-0150); and when determining the element is to be processed by the browser

module, then processing the elements by the browser module; and when determining the element

is not to be processed by the browser module, then passing appropriate information about the

selected element to the object (the spreadsheet application has dual functionalities, namely the

original desktop functionality common to applications and browser based internet functionalities;

therefore, users can select the desktop functionalities which will be processed by the application

program, or browser based functionalities, which will be received from the server) (Ferguson:

page 4, paragraph 0051, page 5, paragraph 0053, page 6, paragraph 0062, page 15, paragraphs

0149-0150 and page 16, paragraph 0164-0169). However, although Ferguson teaches the

integration of Internet capabilities into a displayed box on the interface, Ferguson fails to

explicitly teach that the displayed box is a dialog box. Khan teaches a graphical user interface

that integrates browser capabilities into an application program (Khan: page 4, claim 1, and

Figures 3-4) similar to that of Ferguson. In addition, Khan further teaches integrating Internet

capabilities into a dialog box (the explorer view showing executed searches over the internet can

be integrated with dialog boxes that provides HTML, i.e. web functionalities) (Khan: page 4,

claim 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of

Ferguson and Khan before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface that

integrates browser functionalities into a spreadsheet of Ferguson to include the Internet

connection via a dialog box taught of Khan, in order to obtain an interface that integrates

browser, i.e. Internet/web page capabilities into a dialog box for file management. One would

have been motivated to make such a combination because the integration of multiple functions

into one displayed object allows users to effectively display more information and perform more

tasks with less displayed windows, avoiding clustering of the display screen.

Referring to claims 10, 25 and 37, Ferguson teaches a method, computer program

product and system comprising receiving by a server a request from an application

corresponding to a particular object; the server determining if the server supports a web view

page for the particular application object, the determination being made by recognition of an

attribute (the spreadsheet of the client computer productivity application communicates with a

server via requesting data, i.e. downloading web pages/web content from the server; specifically,

a determination is made as to whether the spreadsheet has appropriate objects and code to

support network-based functionality) (Ferguson: page 3, paragraph 0018, page 5, paragraph

0053, page 15, paragraphs 0149-0150 and page 16, paragraphs 0164-0169); upon determining

that the server supports a web view page for the particular application dialog box, formatting a

response comprising a web view page to be displayed by the particular application dialog box;

upon determining that the server does not support a web view page for the particular application

dialog box, formatting a response comprising an indication that the particular application dialog

box is not supported (the spreadsheet application has dual functionalities, namely the original

desktop functionality common to applications and browser based internet functionalities;

therefore, users can select the desktop functionalities which will be processed by the application

program, or browser based functionalities, which will be received from the server; in other

words, if the spreadsheet object requests a webpage from the server, the server can send the

webpage to be downloaded by the spreadsheet application) (Ferguson: page 4, paragraph 0051,

page 5, paragraph 0053, page 6, paragraph 0062, page 15, paragraphs 0149-0150 and page 16,

paragraph 0164-0169); and sending the response to the application (if the spreadsheet object

requests a webpage from the server, the server can send the webpage to be downloaded by the

spreadsheet application) (Ferguson: page 4, paragraph 0051, page 5, paragraph 0053, page 6,

paragraph 0062, page 15, paragraphs 0149-0150 and page 16, paragraph 0164-0169). However,

although Ferguson teaches the integration of Internet capabilities into a displayed box on the

interface, Ferguson fails to explicitly teach that the displayed box is a dialog box. Khan teaches

a graphical user interface that integrates browser capabilities into an application program (Khan:

page 4, claim 1, and Figures 3-4) similar to that of Ferguson. In addition, Khan further teaches

integrating Internet capabilities into a dialog box (the explorer view showing executed searches

over the internet can be integrated with dialog boxes that provides HTML, i.e. web

functionalities) (Khan: page 4, claim 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the art, having the teachings of Ferguson and Khan before him at the time the invention was

made, to modify the interface that integrates browser functionalities into a spreadsheet of

Ferguson to include the Internet connection via a dialog box taught of Khan, in order to obtain an

interface that integrates browser, i.e. Internet/web page capabilities into a dialog box for file

management. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because the

integration of multiple functions into one displayed object allows users to effectively display

more information and perform more tasks with less displayed windows, avoiding clustering of

the display screen.

Referring to claims 2, 11, 20, 26, 32 and 38, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein the

view page corresponds to file management functionality (the GUI displays directories for

managing files, as shown by the folder icons on the left-hand side of the display) (Khan: Figures

3-4 and 6).

Referring to claims 3, 13, 21, 27, 33 and 39, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein the

element within the web view represents a file (user selection of files shown by the hierarchical

folder display) (Khan: page 4, claim 1 and Figures 3-4 and 6).

Referring to claims 4, 22 and 34, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein processing the element comprises saving a file, copying a file, renaming a file, or deleting a file (copying the document, i.e. file) (Ferguson: page 5, paragraph 0052).

Referring to claims 5, 14, 23, 28, 35 and 40, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein the view page comprises a listing of a plurality of files (Figure 6 of Khan shows a listing of files in a hierarchical tree display).

Referring to claims 6, 16, 24, 29 and 41, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein the listing of files is sorted (as seen from the left-hand side of Figure 6 of Khan, the listing of files is sorted alphabetically).

Referring to claims 7 and 36, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein the application is a word processor or spreadsheet (the productivity application displays a spreadsheet) (Ferguson: page 2, paragraphs 0013-0014 and Figures 11A-11B).

Referring to claim 8, Ferguson, as modified, teach upon the element having been processed, receiving and displaying a new web view page (rendering, or displaying a web page that changes in response to user actions) (Ferguson: page 17, paragraphs 0175-0177).

Referring to claim 9, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein being processed by the browser module comprises executing a separate program to display content (providing capabilities through a specific, separate application program; furthermore, users can choose to download only browser-based views of the application) (Ferguson: page 6, paragraph 0062 and page 14, paragraph 146).

Referring to claim 12, Ferguson, as modified, teach confirming that the computing resource recognizes an application program function attribute in a request to the computing

resource to generate a Web view page (data requests are sent in the form of queries which will

return the appropriate results) (Ferguson: page 20, paragraphs 208-209 and Figure 16D).

Referring to claims 15, 30 and 42, Ferguson, as modified, teach the server responding to

a request resulting from a user having selected an element of the web page view (users interact

with the spreadsheet application, i.e. select information, etc.; for example, when users click on

certain buttons such as the Alert Wizard button 1142 in Figure 11B, the server will send

appropriate alerts and notifications) (Ferguson: page 16, paragraph 0166).

Referring to claim 17, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein responding to a request

comprises sending a new web page view to be displayed within the application dialog box (the

display of web pages are changed in response to user actions) (Ferguson: page 17, paragraphs

0175-0177).

Referring to claim 18, Ferguson, as modified, teach wherein the response from the server

comprises a new web view page to be displayed by the application (the display of web pages are

changed in response to user actions; for example, user selection of different components, or

changes in user queries will result in different network content, i.e. new web pages to be

displayed on the productivity application spreadsheet) (Ferguson: page 17, paragraphs 0175-

0177).

3.   The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered

pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider

these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach similar

method for determining whether an application object supports Internet/web page capabilities.

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments filed 06/20/2007 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive:

5.   The applicant argues that Ferguson and Khan fail to teach or suggest an affirmative act

that support is determined for a particular dialog box. The examiner respectfully disagrees.

Ferguson recites on page 15, paragraph 014, "At step 940, the installed productivity application

extender 120 inspects to determine if the spreadsheet 110 has the appropriate network-enabling

objects 130 and the network-enabling code 630 therein for providing network-based

functionality within. At step 950, based on the inspection in step 940, the system determines

whether the spreadsheet 110 has the appropriate network-based functionality therein." As seen

from the above passage, Ferguson teaches that the productivity application extender positively

determines whether a web view page, i.e. network/Internet capabilities for a particular

application object (the spreadsheet) is supported. Furthermore, if it is determined that the

spreadsheet has the requisite network capabilities, the spreadsheet is launched with network-

based functionality, i.e. the spreadsheet displays requested web pages, etc. (page 15, paragraphs

0149-0150); in other words, if the spreadsheet is launched with network-based functionality, the

application extender has recognized some attribute in the spreadsheet which indicates to the

application extender that the spreadsheet has the requisite network capabilities. In view of the

above response to arguments, the examiner respectfully maintains that the combination of

Ferguson and Khan teaches the subject limitations.

6.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing
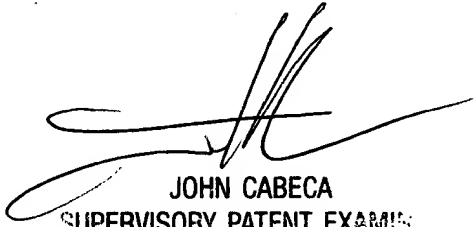
date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Ting Zhou whose telephone number is (571) 272-4058. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached at (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TZ

JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMIN
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 21